

REMARKS

Applicant has added a Related Applications section to clearly claim the priority rights in the parent application (USSN 10/132,013) and the indicated filed Japanese applications. Certified copies of these Japanese applications were filed in the parent application.

Applicant has deleted Claims 5-9, 11 and 12. The subject matter of these claims is covered in Applicant's parent application. The remaining claims, 1-4 and 10 remain in this continuing application. Applicant also encloses copies of the Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) and Information Disclosure Citations (PTO A820) of record in the parent application.

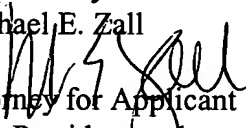
The Office Action of October 06, 2004 in the parent application rejected the claims now presented herein (Claims 1-4 and 10) under 35 USC 102(a) in view of Reference Q, ASICS Spring 2002 Footwear Catalog, page 1, indicated as published on May 16, 2001. This cited ASICS Catalog was published by ASICS TIGER Corporation. ASICS Tiger Corporation, for which the undersigned is Vice President and General Counsel, is a wholly owned subsidiary of ASICS Corporation, the corporation to which this application has been assigned (see Reel/Frame 012840/0943). Thus, the cited reference discloses subject matter derived, originated and obtained from the applicant rather than invented by another. Thus, the cited reference can not be used.

Applicant respectfully requests that this application pass to issuance.

All statements made herein made of my own knowledge are true and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further the statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code.

Dated: February 14, 2004

Respectfully Submitted,
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